

## Message Text

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64

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 EB-11 FEA-02 SCI-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01

/119 W

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O P 070207Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1621

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 2651

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (RUSH), PFOR, RP, SA

SUBJECT: VISIT OF UMAR AL-SAQQAF

REF: SAIGON 2979

1. SAUDI MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS UMAR AL-SAQQAF WILL PAY HIS SECOND OFFICIAL VISIT TO THE PHILIPPINES MAR 8-11. SAQQAF LAST VISITED THE PHILIPPINES IN AUGUST 1973 AS ONE OF FOUR ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS WHO INVESTIGATED THE FILIPINO MUSLIM PROBLEM.

2. THE TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR SAQQAF VISIT IS AS FOLLOWS:

MARCH 8 (1145) - ARRIVE ABOARD KLM 863; MET AT AIRPORT BY PARSIDENT MARCOS. STATE DINNER AT MALACANANG IN EVENING.

MARCH 9 - CALL ON PRESIDENT MARCOS. LUNCHEON HOSTED BY SECRETARY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ROMULO. DINNER HOSTED BY ISLAMIC DIRECTORATE OF PHILIPPINES.

MARCH 10 - MEETING WITH PRESIDENT MARCOS AND BRIEFINGS  
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BY EXECUTIVE SECRETARY MELCHOR. LUNCHEON HOSTED BY SECRETARY

MELCHOR. RECEPTION HOSTED BY SAUDI AMBASSADOR.  
RETURN DINNER HOSTED BY MINISTER SAQQAF.

MARCH 11 - DEPART (IN MORNING BUT TIME UNCERTAIN).

3. GOP IS TREATING SAQQAF AS A STATE VISITOR. SAQQAF AND PARTY WILL STAY AT MALACANANG PALACE AND NOT AT INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL, AS PREVIOUSLY THOUGHT. GOVT-CONTROLLED LOCAL PRESS IS EXPECTED TO PAY EXTENSIVE ATTENTION TO SAQQAF UNTIL HIS DEPARTURE.

4. COMMENT: GOP HAS TWO MAJOR INTERESTS IN SAQQAF VISIT-- OIL SUPPLIES AND THE FILIPINO MUSLIM INSURRECTION. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS FROM US OIL COMPANY SOURCES THAT GOP WAS SHIFTED ON FEB 1 FROM "EXEMPT" (1973 LEVELS) TO " (1973 LEVELS PLUS GROWTH) STATUS BY SAUDI ARABIAN GOVERNMENT. THEN ON FEB 16 GOP WAS RETURNED TO "EXEMPT" STATUS, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE OF DESTRUCTION OF JOLO CITY IN SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES. SECOND GOP CONCERN IS EXPLAINING PHILIPPINE MUSLIM PROBLEM TO ARAB COUNTRIES IN ORDER TO GAIN THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF AND PERHAPS ASSISTANCE FOR THIS COMPLEX INTERNAL PROBLEM.

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** OVIP, PFOR, RP, SA, (AL-SAQQAF, UMAR)  
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